



APPALLING CALAMITY

165 Pupils Burned to Death.

400 CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

Collinswood School Building Catches Fire From Over-Heated Furnace.

SEVERAL PUPILS ARE MISSING

The Frightened and Panic-Stricken Children Turned to Escape by the Widows and Any Other Means That Could be Found.

CLEVELAND, March 4.—Pinned in a narrow hallway, jammed up against doors that opened only inward, 170 children in the suburb of North Collinswood today were killed by fire, by smoke and beneath the grinding heels of their panic-stricken playmates. The awful tragedy occurred this morning in the public school of North Collinswood 10 miles east of this city. At 10 o'clock tonight 165 corpses were in the morgue, six children are still unaccounted for and all the hospitals and houses for two miles around contained numbers of the children some fatally and many less seriously injured. All the victims were between the ages of six and 15 years. The school contained 325 pupils and of this entire number only about 80 are known to have left the building unhurt. It will be several days before the exact number of the killed will be known as the ruins may still contain other bodies and the list of fatalities may be increased by a number of deaths among the children who are now lying in the hospitals hovering between life and death. The schoolhouse was of brick, two stories and an attic in height. The number of pupils was more than normally large and the smaller children had been placed in the attic of the building. There was but one fire escape and that was at the rear of the building. There were two stairways, one leading to the door in front and the other to a door in the rear. Both these doors opened inward and it is claimed that the rear door was locked as well.

When the flames were discovered the teachers throughout seem to have acted with courage and self-possession and to have struggled heroically for the safety of their pupils and marshalled the little ones into columns for "fire drill" which they often practiced. Unfortunately the line of march in this exercise has always led to the front door and the children had been taught to seek any other exit. The fire today came from the furnace situated directly underneath this part of the building. When the children reached the foot of the stairs they found the flames close upon them and so swift was a rush made for the door in an instant it was tightly packed mess of children was piled up against it. From that second none of those who were upon any portion of the first flight of stairs had any chance for their lives. The children at the foot of the stairs attempted to fight their way back to the floor above, while those who were coming showed them mercilessly back into the flames. In an instant there was a frightful panic with 200 of the pupils fighting for their lives. Most of those who were killed died here. The greater part of those who escap-

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JOHNSON, TAFT, HUGHES.

Will Speak, But Politics Will be Tabooed.

NEW YORK, March 4.—Announcement was made yesterday by officers of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick that Governor Johnson of Minnesota is to attend the dinner of that society in this city on March 17. Two other notable speakers on that occasion will be Secretary of War Taft and Governor Hughes. The dinners of the Friendly Sons are non-political and it was said last night that the speeches of Messrs. Johnson, Taft and Hughes would be without political significance.

ROBBS PETER TO PAY PAUL

BUTTE, Mont., Mar. 4.—Judge Bourquin of the District Court has granted leave to the stockholders of the Butte Central and Boston Copper Company to intervene in the suit against the Butte Central and Boston of the Tri-National Corporation Copper Company, on the grounds that collusion exists between the directors of the two companies as the same men are in charge of both corporations.

It is alleged that the Butte Central and Boston Copped Company does not owe the debt of \$51,445.58 for which suit has been brought and that the business of the Butte Central has been handled for the purpose of giving the Tri-National the property. Both the Butte Central and Boston, and Tri-National companies are financed by Boston interests.

PUZZLING PROBLEM

Disposition of Averbuch's Remains, Up to Authorities.

ANARCHISTS WANT THE BODY

The Plan to Act Through the Sister of the Dead Man Was Suggested at a Meeting Held at Maxwell and Canal Streets.

CHICAGO, Mar. 4.—Lazarus Averbuch, the young Russian anarchist who attempted to assassinate Chief of Police Shippy and was himself slain, was one of the body of men who called upon Counsel Brundage several weeks ago to secure permission for the parade of the "unemployed." This permission was denied because it was feared it would bring about a clash between the "Reds" and the police.

Averbuch was not a member of the regular committee that accompanied Dr Ben L. Reitman over to the city hall. He was a sort of "camp-follower."

Joseph Huhn, Mr. Brundage's secretary, yesterday recognized in the dead man who still is at an undertaking establishment, a man who had come with the Reitman committee.

"I saw this man," said Mr. Huhn. "He was one of the several who came over with the committee. He was at the inner door of the vestibule leading to the private office."

"I no speak English," he said when I asked him what he was doing there. Afterwards he muttered something about looking for the Russian consul."

The disposition of the remains of Averbuch is presenting a puzzling problem to the authorities.

Despite his attitude of sworn enmity to society, there is no wish to deny him the ordinary privileges of the burial rite provided it be performed with the utmost privacy. No friends have called to view the remains, however, and unless his sister informs the undertaker to-day that she is financially able to bury the body it probably will be interred in the Potter's field.

The police, when they arrested the girl, found in her possession a trifle over \$19, which is believed to be all she had, and it is thought that the

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CURRENCY BILL TALK

Heyburn Opposed to the Aldrich Bill

AND PERKINS FAVORS IT

Was Like Giving a Man Medicine After He Had Recovered From His Illness.

BAILEY AND DEPEW TO SPEAK

Aldrich Announced That he Hoped to Have a Vote on the Measure Next Wednesday—Heyburn Paid His Compliments to N. Y. Financiers.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—Currency legislation was the subject of consideration in the Senate today. Heyburn opposed the Aldrich bill and declared it useless and said he would not vote for it. Heyburn laid great stress upon what he declared was the wrong principle of allowing security to be used as a basis for circulation. He declared that only the bonds that have a taxing power back of them should be used for that purpose. The passage of the bill now, he said, was like giving a man medicine after he had recovered from his illness. He said the so-called panic was only a nightmare and if the financiers are given to understand that they cannot depend upon government assistance in such cases they would be more apt to conduct their affairs on a sound basis and thus prevent panics. He took the ground that the result of the bill might be to supplant the present currency with emergency bills, as bills, once in circulation could not be called back readily. Heyburn said he never felt his breast swell with gratitude toward the financiers in New York who had been given credit for saving the situation. Perkins spoke at length in favor of the bill. Bailey stated he would speak on the currency bill Monday and Depew will speak on Friday. Aldrich announced he hoped to have a vote on the measure next Wednesday. The Senate adjourned after listening to addresses on the bill to increase the pay of the army.

BRIDEGROOM 82; BRIDE 47.

NEW YORK, March 4.—At the age of 82 former Chief Eli Bates of the New York fire department, is enjoying his second honeymoon with his bride, formerly Mrs. Nellie McBride, a widow of Park avenue, Hoboken. It transpired yesterday that the couple was married in Hoboken on February 16. Mr. Bates' first wife died about 30 years ago. He moved to Hoboken several years later. He was New York's chief from 1873 to 1884 when he was retired on half pay. His bride, who gave her age in the license application as 47, was Bates' housekeeper for a number of years.

FLAG FOUND.

PACIFIC GROVE, Cal., March 4.—News has been received from Honolulu of a notable California relic. It is the identical American flag first hoisted over Monterey's custom house when Mexico's flag was hauled down. One of General Fremont's old soldiers, John Cook, by name, now 84 years old, who has lived 60 years in Honolulu, has guarded this historic flag together with a pistol that belonged to the pathfinder. The flag has been identified as authentic by Captain Teler and Alex McDuff.

MONTANA LANDS.

BUTTE, Mont., March 4.—The committee on mineral land classifications, appointed by the Montana Mining Association, consisting of J. A. Rowand, Dr. O. M. Lanstrum and F. W. Whiteside, will leave tonight for Washington to lay before President Roosevelt the data which has been collected bearing on the classification of lands in Montana. It is asserted that nearly a hundred cases in which fraud has been shown have been secured to be presented to the President. On the strength of this information the committee will demand that an investigation be made.

ALDRICH BILL.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—A careful canvass of the senate to ascertain the sentiment in regard to the Aldrich currency bill, indicates that when the bill comes to a vote there will be more democratic senators for it than republican senators against it. Since the speech by Senator Smith of Michigan in opposition to the railroad bond features of the measure it has been stated persistently that there is a republican defection that endangers the passage of the bill.

MILLERS FALLS MAN KILLED.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4.—Irving W. Bosworth, 55 years old, whose wife and family, are said to live at Miller's Falls, Mass., was struck and killed by a Southern Pacific train near San Pablo, Contra Costa county on Monday night.

NO RAISE OF RATES

Denver Hotel Men Pledged Not to Raise Rates.

THAT ERRONEOUS STATEMENT

The Contributions of the Hotelmen Were Insignificant Compared by What Was Given by Other Interests—No Extortion of Any Kind.

DENVER, Colo., March 4.—M. L. Scholtz, president of the Chamber of Commerce, issued a statement today in which he made clear the fact that Denver hotel men were pledged not to raise rates during the meeting of the Democratic National Convention. "There has been printed in many newspapers an erroneous statement to the effect that Denver hotel men paid a large share of the \$100,000 raised here to help defray the expenses of the national democratic convention and that they intend to make it back by raising rates," said Mr. Scholtz. "As a matter of fact, the contributions of the hotel men were insignificant compared with what was given by other interests. The hotel men are pledged in writing not to raise their rates beyond what is charged for meals and rooms at ordinary times and there will be no just ground for complaint on the part of any one who comes here to attend the national democratic convention. There is no truth in the assertion that rates will be raised here during the convention and that statement is made to set at rest any uneasiness that may have been caused by such misleading statements."

W. F. R. Mills, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and a prominent Republican, supplemented Mr. Scholtz's statement, in a similar vein. "I am a Republican," said Mr. Mills, "but I want every one to know that nothing will be left undone by the Republican citizens of Denver to make all who come to the meeting of the democratic national convention come and enjoy their stay. There will be no extortion and every visitor will depart satisfied with the treatment he receives. It is a matter of pride on the part of all citizens of Denver to treat every visitor to this

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PARCEL POST SYSTEM

Postmaster General Meyer Favors it.

IN OPERATION ABROAD

Objections Have Been Raised in Various Quarters to Measure From Selfish Motives.

WOULD AID RURAL DISTRICTS

That it Would be of Material Advantage to the Retail Merchant in Competition With Mail Order Houses is Apparent to All.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—Postmaster-General Meyer is making an earnest effort to secure the enactment of legislation to extend the parcels post system, believing, he says, that such extension would benefit materially a large class of people living in rural communities, and would aid the trade of small local merchants, and at the same time help make the rural free delivery system of the Postoffice Department self-supporting. In a recent letter to a Western Senator the Postmaster-General said:

"It does not appear to be generally known that comprehensive system of parcels post is at this moment in operation in most foreign countries. The limit of weight fixed in a number of them is shown: Great Britain, 11 pounds; Germany, 11 pounds; France, 22 pounds; Italy, 11 pounds; Chile, 11 pounds; New Zealand, 11 pounds; Austria, 11 pounds; Belgium, 13 pounds; The Netherlands, 11 pounds; Cuba, 11 pounds.

"The parcels post rate in all of these countries is lower than the rate (12 cents a pound) which has been recommended for the general parcels post in the United States.

"The present rate on the general parcels post is 16 cents a pound for people in our own country, the limit of weight being four pounds, while the rate from the United States to 29 foreign countries is 12 cents a pound, and the limit of weight to 24 of these countries is 11 pounds. In order to have the rate consistent and more equitable the department has recommended that on packages for delivery in this country it shall be the same as on those sent abroad, namely, 12 cents a pound, a reduction of 4 cents, and the weight limit 11 pounds, an increase of seven pounds, also material advantage to the retail merchant in competition with the mail order houses is seen at once when it is pointed out that the latter, at the proposed general parcels post rate of 12 cents a pound, would be obliged to pay \$1.32 for sending a 11-pound package to a rural route patron, a difference in favor of the local storekeeper of about 10 cents, or \$1.07 on a 11-pound package.

"Objections have been raised in various quarters to the measures which the department is advocating, and wherever these are not obviously the outcome of selfish motives they have been answered. Although no sound argument has been advanced in opposition, the contentions that have been made are not without interest. I mention the more important of them, at the same time giving the replies which they have elicited:

"It has been stated that the department is not equipped to deliver 11-pound parcels received in the general mails. The present regulations pro-

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DOUBLE MARRIAGE.

Mother and Daughter Are the Brides.

CHICAGO, Mar. 4.—A double wedding at which mother and daughter were the brides was the unusual service which Chicago gave to the events of yesterday. The brides were Mrs. Adella McKey, widow of Henry McKey, and her daughter Miss Gertrude McKey. Mrs. McKey was married to Mr. Fielding A. Randle and Miss McKey became the bride of Mr. Edwin A. Hearne, the service taking place at the home of Mrs. McKey.

Mrs. Randle has been a resident of Chicago for the last thirty one years. Before her marriage she was Miss Adella Parkhurst of New York, a distant relative of Dr. Charles Parkhurst.

TAKING CARE OF THE BOYS.

NEW YORK, Mar. 4.—That the big cities of the country should take special pains to make something besides criminals out of boys, who more in the spirit of mischief than anything else come under the care of the police was the opinion expressed by former Judge Alton B. Parker last night in an address before the Jewish Protective and Aid Society here. Judge Parker declared that there was no more important work than saving these boys and that the people could not be too charitable in their conduct towards them. The protective society before which Judge Parker spoke was organized a year ago to take and care for boys who have been arrested for some misdemeanor.

POSTOFFICE BILL

Appropriation Bill Technically Under Consideration.

DEBATES TOOK WIDE RANGE

Hitchcock Pleaded For Placing on Free List Wood, Pulp and Newspaper—Several Members Secured the Floor for Brief Periods.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The postoffice appropriation bill was technically under consideration in the House today but a discussion under the license of general debate took a wide range. Speculation in cotton, finance, the tariff and a number of miscellaneous matters in turn occupied the whole time of the session. Sims spoke in favor of the Burleson bill to abolish dealings in cotton futures. Chaney and Lindberg talked on the financial questions. Hitchcock pleaded for placing on the free list wood, pulp and print paper and several others secured the floor for brief periods. The general debate on the postoffice appropriation will continue tomorrow.

DIGGING THE DITCH

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—Up to March 1, 28,414,934 cubic yards of excavation had been taken from the Panama Canal route. This is just one fifth of the entire amount that was estimated May 1, 1904, that would be required to be excavated to complete the water-way, viz: 142,000,000 cubic yards in round numbers. Should the work proceed at the present rate, it is estimated the remaining excavation would be completed in three years.

However, it is thought the work of excavation will not be pushed to completion, but that meanwhile construction of the locks will proceed, the intention of the commission being to finish all parts of the canal construction at about the same time.

Notwithstanding that there were two less working days in February than in January, the amount of excavation on the canal was 733,312 cubic yards greater, the total excavation for February being 2,645,880 cubic yards.